

**From:** Alex Hulse  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/9/02 8:44am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Sir/Madam

I am a user of a wide variety of OSes on my PCs, which I use for business and pleasure. I have used the full range of Microsoft Windows OSes and several 'alternative' OSes including Linux distributions, BeOS 5 and QNX.

I have been informed that you seek out the views of people as to what they feel is important in the final settlement in the case against Microsoft. My feeling is that the field has to be levelled regarding dual booting. Microsoft forbids the option to boot any other OS other than Windows on their OEM's machines. This is unfair. Microsoft should allow their competitors equal rights to the machine, to allow OEMs to choose the OS that suits the machine best, or allow their customers to make that decision themselves. Even if Windows is still required, it allows the user to see that there is an option of another OS, and that in some ways they can be better at different jobs; BeOS's media skills jump immediately to mind.

I hope that you find my thoughts useful and that they can help towards making the OEM PC industry a fairer place for companies others than Microsoft.

Yours Faithfully

Alexander Hulse